REMARKS

This Amendment and Response to Non-Final Office Action is being submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed July 6, 2006. Claims 1-28 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 10-12, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lenz (U.S. Pat. No. 6,029,196). Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenz. Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenz as applied to Claims 1 and 4, and in further view of Chrabaszcz (U.S. Pat. No. 6,263,387).

In response to these rejections, Claims 1, 11-14, 18, 22, 23, and 27 have been amended to further clarify the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention, without prejudice or disclaimer to continued examination on the merits. These amendments are fully supported in the Specification, Drawings, and Claims of the Application and no new matter has been added. Based upon the amendments and the arguments presented herein, reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 10-12, and 14 Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) – Lenz

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 10-12, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lenz (U.S. Pat. No. 6,029,196).

Applicants respectfully submit that Lenz does not disclose a metadata file which enables an external management system to learn how to configure a network device and how to manage accounting data, statistics, security, and fault logging from the network device. Specifically, Lenz discloses a client configuration system which provides a system administrator the ability to configure every client in a network with one file on a server where the file contains client lock files, preferences, configuration information, and software versions.[1] Further, Lenz discloses a settable timeout for periodic configuration

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[1] *See* U.S. Pat. No. 6,029,196, Abstract.

updates and sending updates only upon a determination that the client needs an update.[2] Lenz only discloses updating configurations of clients. Lenz does not disclose metadata for managing a client's accounting data, statistics, security, and fault logging for a network device.

Specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

1. A method of operating a telecommunications system, comprising:
  sending a first metadata file from a network device to an external management system, *wherein the first metadata file enables the external management system to learn how to configure the network device and how to manage accounting data, statistics, security, and fault logging from the network device*;
  generating a first management data file within the network device;
  sending the first management data file from the network device to the external management system; and
  processing the first management data file in accordance with the first metadata file in the external management system for managing the network device.

Similarly, amendments adding this limitation have been made to the metadata in Claims 11-14, 18, 22, 23, and 27.

Therefore, Applicants submit that the rejection of Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 10-12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lenz has now been traversed, and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, and 15-17 Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §103(1) – Lenz

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenz. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, and 15-17 depend from Claim 1 or an intervening depending claim. The arguments and amendments made herein in regards to Claim 1 apply with equal force here.

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[2] *See* U.S. Pat. No. 6,029,196, Col. 2, lines 1-3 and lines 12-15.

Therefore, Applicants submit that the rejection of Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, and 15-17 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenz has now been traversed, and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

Claim 13 Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §103(1) – Lenz and Chrabaszcz

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenz in view of Chrabaszcz. Claim 13 depends from Claim 1. The arguments and amendments made herein in regards to Claim 1 apply with equal force here.

Additionally, Claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of *"wherein the second metadata file enables the external management system to learn how to configure the hardware module and how to manage accounting data, statistics, security, and fault logging from the hardware module."* This limitation is not taught by Lenz in view of Chrabaszcz.
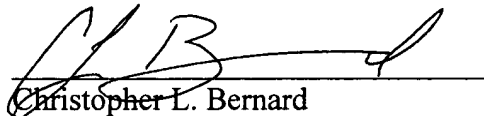
Therefore, Applicants submit that the rejection of Claim 13 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lenz and Chrabaszcz has now been traversed, and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn and the claim be allowed.

CONCLUSION

Applicants would like to thank Examiner for the attention and consideration accorded the present Application. Should Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place the Application in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact undersigned Counsel at the telephone number, facsimile number, address, or email address provided below. It is not believed that any fees for additional claims, extensions of time, or the like are required beyond those that may otherwise be indicated in the documents accompanying this paper. However, if such additional fees are required, Examiner is encouraged to notify undersigned Counsel at Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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